

(12/31/1995)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 12/30/1997

To: New Haven

Attn: SA [REDACTED]

b6  
b7c

✓ From: New York

C-18/Brooklyn-Queens MRA

Contact: SA [REDACTED] (718) 286-7199

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

Case ID #: 87A-A24880 (Pending)  
87B-NH-NEW (Pending)Title: UNSUB(S);  
THEFT OF D.C. COMICS ARTWORK;  
VALUED AT APPROX. \$100,000;  
VICTIM - JOE SIMON, NEW YORK, NY;  
POSSIBLE ITSP

Synopsis: Information of possible ITSP violation for New Haven Division.

Enclosed: Copy of list of stolen JOE SIMON art taken from DC archives (provided by SIMON); copy of [REDACTED] list of artworks for sale; copy of letter from [REDACTED] to SIMON; copy of letter from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] copy of letter and related artwork from SIMON to SA [REDACTED]

Details: Reference telcall between SA [REDACTED] New York Division, and SA [REDACTED] New Haven Division, 12/30/97.

For information of the New Haven Division, SA [REDACTED] was recently contacted by JOE SIMON, white male, date of birth: 10/11/13, 330 West 56th Street, New York, NY, telephone number (212) 265-7346. SIMON, a retired comic book artist who created the "CAPTAIN AMERICA" character in 1940, advised that approximately \$100,000 worth of his original comic book art was currently being offered for sale by an individual named [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] telephone number [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] facsimile number [REDACTED]

This original art, done for DC Comics, consisting of about 300 pages, was supposed to be returned to SIMON by DC Comics in the early 1970's, but was apparently stolen in or about 1974 from the DC Comics archive warehouse in New York and was never given back to SIMON.

SIMON advised that he received a telephone call on November 12, 1997, from an acquaintance named [REDACTED] Connecticut comic book dealer [REDACTED] telephone number [REDACTED] office telephone number [REDACTED] facsimile number [REDACTED]

JAN 06 1998

FBI - NEW YORK

To: New Haven From: New York  
Re: 87A-A24880, 12/30/1997

[redacted] who runs a company called [redacted] advised that an individual named [redacted] contacted him about this time. [redacted] told [redacted] that his father was in possession of over 300 pages of original JOE SIMON artwork that he wished to sell and that SIMON himself had given the artwork to [redacted] attempting to confirm the provenance of the artwork, faxed SIMON a complete list of the artwork being offered for sale by [redacted] SIMON informed [redacted] that the artwork was stolen in the 1970's before it could be returned to SIMON, and therefore SIMON could not have given it to anyone.

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Both SIMON and the Legal Department at DC Comics advised that in the 1970's, it was the policy of DC Comics to return all the original comic book artwork to the artist approximately six months after publication; however, there was apparently a theft of the DC Comics archive warehouse during this time and much of the artwork was never returned to SIMON. Other artwork was previously returned to SIMON by [redacted] a DC Comics employee, currently located at [redacted] [redacted] telephone number [redacted]

SIMON contacted [redacted] and [redacted] Legal Department, DC Comics, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY, telephone number (212) 636-5464, who sent a letter to [redacted] informing him that the artwork in his possession may have been stolen and therefore it would be unlawful for him to dispose of it. [redacted] is apparently still attempting to sell the artwork through [redacted] and to date has not contacted [redacted] regarding the background of the artwork.

Included in the artwork for sale is the original artwork for the cover of "SANDMAN" comics, which was the last collaboration between SIMON and comic book artist JACK KIRBY, and is considered to be of great historical value in the comic book art world, worth approximately \$40,000 alone. [redacted] recently faxed a copy of this cover to [redacted] on December 17, 1997, offering it for sale.

It should be noted that contact with DC Comics Legal Department has not confirmed the alleged theft of SIMON's artwork, nor has a New York City police report been located. According to [redacted] if the theft occurred, it was not immediately detected and may not have been reported to the police at all. Further investigation of this matter should be left to the discretion of the New Haven Division.

## Joe Simon Art taken from DC archives and offered for sale:

Sandman Cover  
Black Magic Cover  
Super Freaks Cover

Prez(Bugs?)  
Pages 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20

Prez (? 1974)  
Cover  
Pages 4-7-8-9-10-14-15-18-19-20-24-25-26-29-30

The Green Team (Paperhanger) 1974  
Pages 1-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-18-20

The Green Team (issue unknown)  
Cover without logo  
Pages 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-17-19-20

Champion Sports (Baseball) (The kid that Beat the Oakland...)  
Cover  
Pages 2-3-4-7-8-9

Champion Sports (Horse Story) #3  
Cover  
Pages 2-4-7-8-9-10-11-14-15

Champion Sports #2 (baseball) Enchanted bat  
Cover  
Pages 2-7-8-9

Young Romance #196  
Page 9

Young Romance #176 (1973)  
Pages 2-3-4

Young Romance #197  
Pages 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-15-16-17-18

Young Romance #199  
Pages 2-3-4-6

Young Romance #200  
Pages 28-29-30

Young Romance #202  
Pages 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11 and final page

Young Romance #205  
Pages 2-3-7-8-9-13-14-15

Young Romance #206  
Cover  
Pages 2-3-4-7-8-9-10

Young Romance #207  
Pages 19-20-23-24-25-26-29-30

Young Romance #208  
Cover  
Pages 2-3-4-13-14-21-30-31

Champion Sports: The Little Racer #1  
Cover  
Pages 14-15-16-18-19

Champion Sports: The First Hurdle  
Cover  
Pages 25-26-29-30

Champion Sports: Jack the Giants Killer  
Cover  
Pages 20-23-24-25-26-29-30-35

Champion Sports (Football) 1973  
Pages 10-25-26-29\*-30

Champion Sports: The Shot Put (?) 1973  
Pages 14-15

Super Freaks (First Issue Special #10)  
Cover  
Pages 1-2-3-4-7-9-14-19-20-23-24-25-27-30

Young Love #106  
Pages 15-16-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27-30

Young Love #108  
Pages 12-13-14-16-17-18

Young Love #109

Pages 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-15-16-17-18-19-20-37-38

Young Love #110

Pages 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-14-15

Young Love #114

Pages 9-10-11-15-28-29-30-31-35-36

Young Love #117

Pages 1-2-4-7-8-9-10

Young Love #118

Pages 2-3-4-7-8-9-10-13-14-19-20-21-23-24-25-26-29-30

Heart Throbs #144

Pages 28-29-30 plus loose pages with paste up or corrections

Also some odds and ends (and unclear material) such as:

Suicide Mission , page 23

Prez: Vampire in the White House Cover

First Story Johnny Champion Sports: The Saga of Wil Bill.....Chapter 2, page 13

Nov-12-97 03:03P

FROM : Paradise YAD:FRN

PHONE NO. :

P.01

12/1997 02:52PM P01

**FAX****PHONE #****THANKS -****4 PAGES****3 PG ADS**

Visual Concepts - Graphic Design - Illustrations - Pre-press  
 1000 MERRICK RD. - BA - MINGHALL - NEW YORK 11220 (718) 335-1100

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b7c

AVAILABLE COMIC ART - (ORIGINALS) PAGES APPROX 300 FULL PAGES  
 ART WORK SIZE 13 1/2" X 10 1/2" W

1 COVER OF SANDMAN -  
 1 COVER OF BLACK MAGIC -  
 1 COVER OF SUPER FREAKS -

SDMS - 15" X 10 1/2" W  
 COMUS 12R -

PAGES  
PRCZ (BUGS)

PAGES 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20

PRCZ (PETERMAN 1974)

COVER  
PAGES 4-7-8-9-10-14-15-18-19-20-24-25-26-29-30

THE GREEN TEAM - 1974 (PAPERHANGER)

PAGES 1-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-18-20

THE GREEN TEAM #97

COVER (WITHOUT TITLE)

PAGES: 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-17-19-20

CHAMPION SPORTS (BASEBALL)

(THE KID WHO BEAT THE OAKLAND A)

1 COVER +

PAGES: 2-3-4-7-8-9 -

CHAMPION SPORTS (HORSE STORY) #3

1 COVER +

PAGES: 2-4-7-8-9-10-11-14-15

CHAMPION SPORTS #2 (BASEBALL) THE FANTASTIC BAT

1 COVER +

PAGES: 2-7-8-9 -

Nov-12-97 03:03P

P.02

FROM : Panasonic TAD/FAX:

PHONE NO. :

Nov. 12 1997 03:53/41 FAX



~~Leopoldo/Studio~~

Visual Concepts • Graphic Design • Illustrations • Production  
1000 HERRINGTON, PARKWAY • NEW YORK 11761 • (516) 335-1764

PAGE (2)

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 176

PAGES = 9

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 176 (1973)

PAGES 2-3-4

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 197

PAGES = 2-3-4-5-6-8-9-10-15-16-17-18

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 199

PAGES = 2-3-4-5-6

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 200

PAGES = 29-29-30

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 207 (1975)

PAGES = 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11 + END AGE

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 205 (1975)

PAGES = 2-3-7-8-9-13-14-15

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 206 (1975)

1 COVER +

PAGES 2-3-4-7-8-9-10

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 207 (1975)

PAGES = 19-20-23-24-25-26-29-30

YOUNG ROMANCE - ISSUE # 208

PAGES 1 COVER + 2-3-4-13-14-24-30-31

Nov-12-97 03:03P

P.03

FROM: Panasonic TND-FN1

PHONE NO. 1

Nov 12 1997 02:53PM P03



teconographics/studios

Visual Concepts • Graphic Design • Illustrations • Production  
 1000 NICHOLS RD. • FAIRMINGDALE • NEW YORK 11735 • (516) 461-1044

PAGE (3)

CHAMPION SPORTS - THE LITTLE RACER #1 (1973)

1 COVER +

PAGES 14-15-16-18-19 -

CHAMPION SPORTS - THE FIRST HURDLE (1973)

1 COVER +

PAGES 25-26-29-30

CHAMPION SPORTS - JACK THE GIANTS KILLER (1973)

1 COVER +

PAGES 20-23-24-25-26-29-30-35 -

CHAMPION SPORTS - FOOTBALL (1973) 11.1.1

PAGES 10-25-26-29-30

CHAMPION SPORTS - THE SHOT PUT - (1973)

PAGES 14-15

SUPER BREAKS (ADVENTURE-FANTASY (FIRST ISSUE SPEC #10 JAN))

1 COVER +

PAGES 1-2-3-4-7-9-17-19-20-23-24-25-27-30

PLUS:

LOOSE PAGES &amp; COVERS OF:

PAGE 2 - VAMPIRE IN THE WHITE HOUSE (COVER...)

- SUICIDE MISSION - PAGE 23 -

- FIRST STORY... JOHNNY - PAGE 8

- CHAMPION SPORTS - THE SAGA OF WIDE BILL H1 (1973)

- CHAPTER 2 - WHEELING DEATH PAGE 13-

PAPERHANGER (GREEN TEAM) (PAGE 17)

7289 NICHOLS RD. FAIRMINGDALE, NY 11735 (1974)



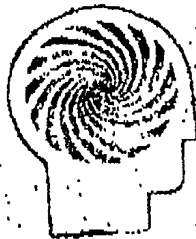
Nov-12-97 03:03P

P.04

FROM: Kanaoche 110-711:

PHONE NO. :

Nov 12 1997 02:59PM (U)



**Locomotion Graphics/Studios**  
 Visual Concepts • Graphic Design • Illustrations • Production  
 1000 MERRITT RD. • FARMINGDALE • NEW YORK 11735 • (516) 971-244

PAGE (4)

YOUNG LOVE = ISSUE # 106 - (1973)

PAGES: 15-16-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27-30

YOUNG LOVE = ISSUE # 108 - (1973)

PAGES 12-13-14-16-17-18

YOUNG LOVE = ISSUE # 109 - (1974)

PAGES 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-15-16-17-18-19-20-37-38

YOUNG LOVE = ISSUE # 110 (NO DATE)

PAGES = 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-14-15

YOUNG LOVE = ISSUE # 114 - (1974)

PAGES = 9-10-11-15-28-29-30-31-35-36

YOUNG LOVE = ISSUE # 117 (1975)

PAGES = 1-2-4-7-8-9-10

YOUNG LOVE = ISSUE # 118 -

PAGES 2-3-4-7-8-9-10-13-14-19-20-21-23-24  
25-26-29-30

HEART THROBS - ISSUE # 144 (1975)

PAGES = 28-29-30

PLUS = FEW LOST PAGES - WITH PAST UP COPY OR CORRECTIONS

5 PAGES INCLUDING COVER PAGE

(FROM AN ART DEALER)  
IN CONNECTICUT US

JOE,

ENCLOSED WITH THIS FAX IS  
THE COPY OF THE INVENTORY LIST

[REDACTED] SENT ME. I HOPE THIS  
IS OF SOME HELP. IF YOU GET LUCKY,  
THEY WILL DO THE RIGHT THING AND  
RETURN THE ARTWORK TO YOU.

IF I CAN BE OF ANY HELP, DO NOT  
HESITATE TO CONTACT ME. MY HOME  
PHONE NUMBER IS [REDACTED]  
AND MY PAGER NUMBER IS

[REDACTED]

I HOPE SOMEDAY SOON, WE CAN  
FINALLY MEET IN PERSON!

BEST Wishes-

P.S. THANKS TO YOU AND JACK FOR  
CAPTAIN AMERICA. YOU GAVE ME  
MY CHILDHOOD AND ADULT IDOL AS  
WELL AS CREATED AN AMERICAN ICON!

2124896844

NOV-26-91 WED 12:43 PM JOE.SIMON

DC COMICS  
1700 Broadway  
New York, New York 10019  
(212) 636-5464  
FAX (212) 636-5595



[Redacted]  
November 25, 1997

[Redacted]  
Dear [Redacted]

It recently has come to our attention that you are in possession of approximately 300 pages of original art by Joe Simon which was published by DC Comics in the 1970s. We have been advised that you claim that Mr. Simon gave this artwork to your father, and that you now are offering it for sale.

Both Mr. Simon and DC Comics are at a loss to explain how this artwork came to be in your possession. Although at the time it was DC Comics' practice to return original art to the artist, Mr. Simon never did receive the pages which you have listed as available for sale. Consequently, he could not have given (or sold) this artwork to you or your father. In fact, Mr. Simon does not know you or your father.

Please be advised that this artwork may have been stolen from DC Comics. Therefore, until its provenance is established, it would be unlawful for you to sell or otherwise dispose of it. I trust and expect that you will support us in our efforts to unravel this mystery, and look forward to your cooperation.

This letter is without prejudice to any rights or remedies of DC Comics and/or Joe Simon, all of which are expressly reserved.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]  
LL:smk

cc [Redacted]

Joe Simon

b6  
b7c



A division of Warner Bros.-A Time Warner Entertainment Company



330 West 56 Street  
New York, NY 10019  
Tel # (212) 265-7346  
Fax # (212) 489-6844

December 17, 1997

Special Agent [redacted]  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dear Agent [redacted]

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I wish to thank you for considering my request for the assistance of The Bureau in my quest to regain my stolen artwork.

I was explaining to you the value of one particular cover, The Sandman, which was the last collaboration with the late Jack Kirby, and which is of great historical value in this unique American art forum.

Yesterday, the art dealer in Connecticut, [redacted] called me to inform me that he was in possession of a fax from the person who has the pilfered art [redacted] who had faxed the enclosed material to his son, [redacted] in Kent, Conn. (Phone numbers and fax numbers included). The illustration is that of the missing Sandman cover, as well as some art on a Black Magic cover. The father [redacted] writes to his son that he has the two versions of said Sandman cover. One, the prototype, was done by me and sent to Jack Kirby who had the same cover inked in his studio in California. Both are extremely valuable to the worldwide comic book art collectibles community and, of course, to my family.

I will mail this material to you but first you may wish to view it on the fax

I do hope your office will proceed on this matter and you know that we are all very grateful for your attention. Best regards to Agent [redacted]

Happy Holidays to all.



Joe Simon

CC [redacted]

DC COMICS

DEC-16-97 TUE 20:50 THE.ARTIST'S.CHOICE

203 866 6608

P.01

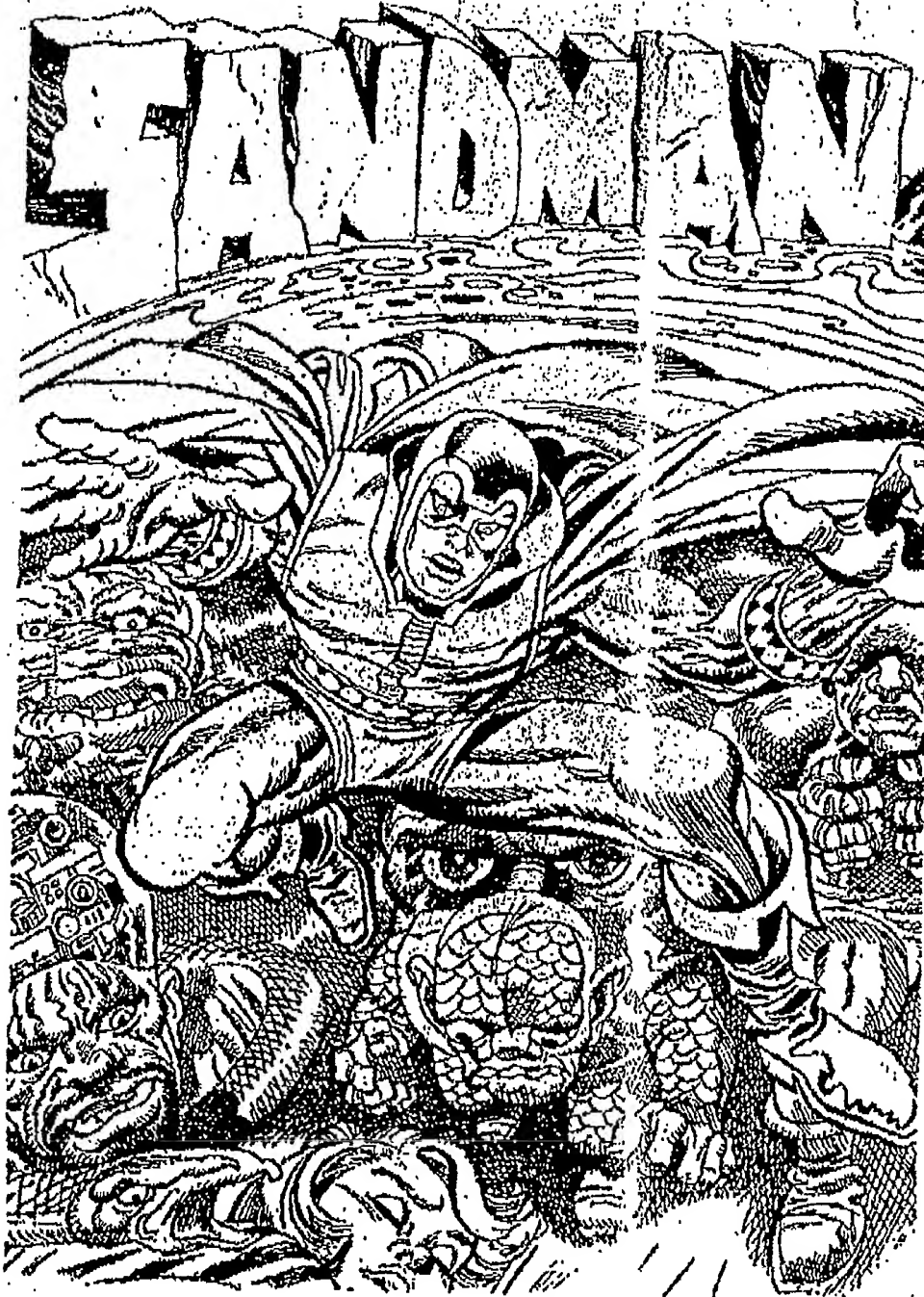
NOV-13-97 01:39P

FROM : DANIELLE LINDA OV

MOBILE

NOV 13 1997 12:44:41 PM

P.01



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b7C

COPIES OF BLACK

011 011 1111111111 : (183)

203 866

DEC-16-97 TUE 20:59 THE ARTIST'S CHOICE

COPIES OF BLACK MAGIC COVER 1975  
- MANY COPIES  
- NO DATE  
- SAME ART - DIFFERENT  
- INKINGS -

phone

ST

SPARTA

Cover Title *Black Magic* No. *10* Modification *JS-280*



LISTEN FOR THE SOUND OF DEATH:  
THE PATTTER OF LITTLE FEET

# BLACK MAGIC

25¢  
NO. 10  
JULY  
30437

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

YOU SAY YOU FOUND  
HERCULES THIS WAY?  
WHAT COULD HAVE  
FRIGHTENED SUCH  
A GIANT OF A  
MAN TO DEATH?

THE MIDGET  
HE KILLED -- HE  
ALWAYS DID CLAIM  
THAT HE WAS  
HAUNTED BY THE  
PATTTER OF  
LITTLE FEET!





870 NH. 37213-1A

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
APR 23 1998  
FBI - NH

STB NH. 37213/14



Universal File Case Number 87B-NH-37213-1A2

Field Office Acquiring Evidence New Haven

Serial # of Originating Document \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received 4/2/98

From Joe Simon  
(Name of Contributor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of Contributor)

NY, NY  
(City and State)

By SA   
(Name of Special Agent)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ No

Receipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title:

Reference: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☐ Original notes re interview of

copy of cassette tape

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b7c



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Universal File Case Number 87B-NH-37213-1A1

Field Office Acquiring Evidence \_\_\_\_\_

Serial # of Originating Document \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Contributor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of Contributor)

By \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Special Agent)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ No

Receipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title:

Reference: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☒ Original notes re interview of

[Redacted Box]

b6  
b7C

OWENS, CLARY & AIKEN, L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS

SUITE 2400

1717 MAIN STREET

DALLAS, TEXAS 75201

(214) 698-2100

b6  
b7c

DIRECT DIAL:  
(214) 698-

2103

FACSIMILE:  
(214) 698-2121

January 12, 1998

VIA FACSIMILE 212/636-5595  
AND REGULAR U.S. MAIL

[REDACTED]  
D.C. Comics  
1700 Broadway  
New York, NY 10019

Dear [REDACTED]

Please be advised that this firm represents [REDACTED] and, in that capacity, has been requested to respond to your correspondence dated November 25, 1997, alleging that certain original artwork in the possession of [REDACTED] "may have been stolen from D.C. Comics."

First, our client never claimed that his father obtained the artwork from Mr. Simon. Second, your allegation that the artwork in [REDACTED] possession may have been stolen from D.C. Comics is premised upon certain conclusory allegations which are not supported by any documentation. In order that we may assess such allegations, we request that you produce (a) any documents evidencing any claim of title to such original artwork by D.C. Comics, including its agreements with Joe Simon, (b) any documents evidencing any practice of D.C. Comics to return original artwork to any artist, (c) any documents evidencing an attempt to return the subject artwork to Mr. Simon, including letters of transmittal, (d) all documents evidencing Mr. Simon's requests or demands to D.C. Comics for a return of the artwork, (e) all evidence establishing that the artwork was not abandoned by Mr. Simon, and (f) any documents evidencing the identities of those persons having custody of the artwork prior to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Absent production of such documents within ten (10) days of the date of this letter, we will assume that the allegations in your correspondence are without basis in fact.

Of course, this letter is without prejudice to [REDACTED] rights in the artwork, including his right to sell that artwork. Indeed, should D.C. Comics continue to slander the

OWENS, CLARY & AIKEN, L.L.P.

[redacted]  
January 12, 1998  
Page 2

title of [redacted] or otherwise interfere with his rights to  
sell such artwork without cause, [redacted] shall take any and  
all steps necessary to protect his rights.

b6  
b7C

Very truly yours,

[redacted]

LA/sh

cc: [redacted]

## OWENS, CLARY &amp; AIKEN, L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS

SUITE 2400

1717 MAIN STREET

DALLAS, TEXAS 75201

(214) 698 2100

DIRECT DIAL: 2103  
(214) 698FACSIMILE:  
(214) 698-2121

March 24, 1998

Special Agent [REDACTED]  
United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
150 Court Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Special Agent [REDACTED]

This letter will confirm that our client, [REDACTED] has agreed to meet with you on April 3, 1998, to discuss allegations by Joe Simon and D.C. Comics that artwork abandoned by Mr. Simon and then sold is improperly in our client's possession. We trust that once you meet with our client, you will conclude that, legally and factually, there has been no such impropriety.

As we discussed, the interview will take place at the offices of The Litchfield Companies, L.L.C., which are located at 128 Litchfield Road, New Milford, Connecticut 06776. The interview will commence at 10:00 a.m., and directions to the offices of The Litchfield Companies, L.L.C. from New Haven are as follows:

Take Route 63 North (Whalley Avenue) to Route 67. Follow Route 67 all the way to New Milford, where it intersects with Route 202 (please watch carefully - Route 67 makes several turns on the way to New Milford). Follow Route 202 East approximately 3 miles proceeding through 2 traffic lights. The offices are on the right, approximately 1 mile after the second traffic light and immediately after Rudy's Restaurant. If you come to the third traffic light, you have gone too far. The telephone number for the offices is (860) 350-0725.

We look forward to meeting with you on April 3 and putting to rest any concerns the Government may have that our client has engaged in improper or unlawful conduct.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

by SH

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4/3/98

b6  
b7C

1.)

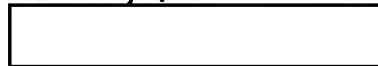
2.)

1)



Graphic Artist by Profession  
Lived in NY since 1968  
1981 Carino - Phillips Advertising  
Duport ST, Plainville  
Freelance Art Director

Duties : Design & Director Others



was employed there

bet around 1980 + 1981

She advised that her father was an artist  
& offered to sell the artwork

3 inch (H) x 11 x 17 (L)

Blonde, Tall boyfriend carried to office  
\$100 cash, no receipt

Later tried to sell it

2)



Fall, 1997



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b7C

Several copies of several sketches and list of collection



Universal File Case Number 87B-NH-37213-1A3

Field Office Acquiring Evidence AL

Serial # of Originating Document \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received 4/30/98

From   
(Name of Contributor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of Contributor)

By  (Signature)  
(Name of Agent)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ No

Receipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title: Unsub(s);  
Theft of D.C. Comics Artwork  
Valued at approximately \$100,000.00  
New York, N.Y.  
Possible ITSP

Reference: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☒ Original notes re interview of

b6  
b7c

4/30/98

DOB  
SSAN

b6  
b7C

Telephone

JOE SIMON FATHER

graphic artist at Corino -  
Phillips advertising in Plainville NY.

gave Phone # ADDRESS

Has a very Thick accent

[REDACTED]

worked at Farmingdale  
for two months in 1981 approx  
[REDACTED] was harassing her

-b6  
b7C

Brought in ONE comic Book for him  
to look at

[REDACTED]

called 6 weeks was talking to [REDACTED]  
for the first time in <sup>17</sup>18 years

Friendly call started right in with  
question about a piece of artwork  
she said his not know what you talking  
about said son was interested in artwork  
of fathers

6 1/2 weeks ago  
called [REDACTED] back was very ~~angry~~ furious  
"would never sell his artwork"

[REDACTED] was at firm once  
to pick her up and sat outside  
staying at.

DOA

SSA

[REDACTED]

staying with friend [REDACTED]  
will call with #

(male)

Sheet of artwork would measure  
3' x 2' and 300 sheets would be approx.  
2 ft. high - and would take two people  
to lift it

When I first spoke to him he  
referred to that piece of artwork  
would unson go FBI Polygraph

b6  
b7C

Universal File Case Number 87 B - NH - 37213-1A4

Field Office Acquiring Evidence AL

Serial # of Originating Document \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received 5/1/98

From   
(Name of Contributor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of Contributor)

By

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ No

Receipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title:

UNSUB(S);  
Theft of D.C. Comics artwork  
valued at approximately \$100,000.00;  
NEW YORK, NY.  
Possible ISP

Reference: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☒ Original notes re interview of

b6  
b7C



May 1<sup>st</sup> 1998  
b6  
b7C

~~8:30 - 10:00 HPP~~

~~McDonalds on 1 Block~~



DOB

SSN



By Telephone

[REDACTED]

/GAVE HEARSAY  
INFO 1992 on

• Couple lived next door 9/3  
in Apartment  
To Mr Simon, got along  
with Joe. well bought  
44885136

[REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED] was an Exe  
in Tobacco Industry from  
Brooklyn heavily involved  
in drug industry

20,000 Trained 200,000  
Counterfeit

[REDACTED]

Friend was in  
TO Industry used to smoke  
Pot & Hash

[REDACTED]

Friend of

[REDACTED]

~~Romy~~

b6  
b7C

moved to Hollywood  
[redacted] got a hold of  
Joe's network

[redacted] was at  
Joe's

330

was + 56<sup>th</sup> St. NYC.

California

Art Dealer called Joe

To ask if it was real

Joe <sup>said</sup> ~~asked~~ what network?

Letter from Joe to [redacted]

Dump ~~Joe~~

Sept 96

Divorce started

Divorce final Oct

97





Gasbted



b6  
b7C

In Darkroom and  
Tried to  
Kiss~~ed~~ her  
Worked Two WEEKS  
she Demanded more  
Salary - Then Quit  
was In Firm maybe  
Once Never Had  
WORDS or Seen



would not Be Surprised  
if she had sold the  
Drawings. Diet Poon In  
1981

MAWSON to

b6  
b7C

The

[redacted] was in possession  
of 2 or 3 original sketches

Joe sold Big mansion

[redacted] was moving things out  
with Joe's permission

sold MAGAZINES "SICK"

MAGAZINES 1000 Count  
Joe Simon was publisher

For 200 on 300 at a

Donny's Rest. Does not

know who they were  
a kid and his father

Does not ~~was~~ think it was

[redacted]

Did Not have a account  
was about some time  
that she was working  
for [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

Joe knew about  
sale of Sick Mags.  
[REDACTED] told him that

18 X 24 original artwork  
thick cardboard  
3/16 inch thick

Universal File Case Number 87 B - NH - 37213 - 1A5

Field Office Acquiring Evidence AL

Serial # of Originating Document \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received 5/1/98

From [Redacted]  
(Name of Contributor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of Contributor)

By [Redacted] State)  
Special Agent)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes ☒ No

Receipt Given ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6 (e)

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

☐ Yes ☒ No

Title: Unsub(s);  
Theft of D.C. Comics Network  
Valued At approximately \$100,000.00  
New York, N.Y.  
Possible ITSP

Reference: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Communication Enclosing Material)

Description: ☒ Original notes re interview of

[Redacted]

b6  
b7C

5/1/98

1:30 pm

b6  
b7C

TELEPHONE

They were In and Out of  
Apartment - They Did not work For

a Living -  
LIVED next to Father For 10 years Approx.  
Moved to California Rough Guess Date 1991 Approx.

HAD ACCESS TO JOE SIMON'S Apartment  
STUDY CHARACTERS  
[REDACTED] WAS Talking about a Scheme  
For Counterfeit money

[REDACTED] WAS Dealing Drugs -

~~REDACTED~~

(JOE)

~~REDACTED~~ Father Suspected [REDACTED] In a Part  
Transaction In Calif.

(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 01/13/1998

To: NH

Attn: ASAC

b6  
b7C

From:

SSA/Squad 5

Approved By:

Drafted By:

rr

Case ID #: 66F-NH-A35254

87B-NH-36619

87B-NH-37213-2

Title: SUPERVISORY ORGANIZATION

Reference: Captioned EC dated 1/5/98.

Synopsis: To seek a delay in the reassignment of SA

Details: Referenced EC advised of the reassignment of SA from Squad 5 to Squad 7, effective 1/18/98. Squad 5 is seeking a delay in SA transfer until a conclusion of an on-going IT investigation which has the potential to develop into a significant Group II Undercover Operation.

As NH is aware, the IT was a static investigative Subprogram until its assignment to Squad 5 as a statewide initiative. IT has since emerged into a viable investigative entity with a number of proactive measures and aggressive liaison activities with state and local police agencies. The success of the IT hindered primarily on the investigative and liaison strengths of SAs and

SA was assigned to Squad 5 in August 1997. He attended two IT inservices and received UCA certification pursuant to IT matters. He is currently the lead Agent for an investigative matter titled "Steel Trailer". This case was initiated on 9/4/97 and has rapidly developed into a potential Group II Undercover Operation with the identity of two subjects believed to have OC connections. SA is also involved with the Canton Police Department in the recovery of antiques and other valuables in excess of \$125,000, and is developing an investigation of the theft of Artworks from D.C. Comics, which has the potential to significantly impact the New York art community.

916 NH 37213-2

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 13 1998	
FBI HAVEN	

EC

JS

To: NH From: ??  
Re: 66F-NH-A35254, 01/13/1998

The reassignment of SA [ ] at this time would have a negative impact on NH's IT Subprogram. It is therefore requested that SA [ ] transfer be delayed for 120 days.

b6  
b7c

♦♦

DC COMICS  
1700 Broadway  
New York, New York 10019  
(212) 636-5464  
FAX (212) 636-5595



(X) [Signature]

b6  
b7C

DC COMICS

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

DATE: January 12, 1998

TO: [Redacted]

COMPANY: FBI

FAX #: 203-786-7136

FROM: [Redacted]

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT (INCLUDING THIS ONE): 4

COMMENTS:

As we discussed.

\*\*\*IF THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS WITH THIS TRANSMISSION,\*\*\*  
PLEASE CALL (212)-636-5463.



A division of Warner Bros.-A Time Warner Entertainment Company



(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 01/12/1998

To: NH

Attn: ASAC [redacted]

SSA [redacted]

SSA [redacted]

SA [redacted]

b6  
b7C

From: [redacted]

Squad 5

Approved By [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] ds

Case ID #: 87B-NH-37213 (Pending)

Title: UNSUB(S);  
Theft of D.C. Comics Artwork;  
Valued at approximately \$100,000.00;  
VICTIM-JOE SIMON, NEW YORK, N.Y.  
ITSP

Synopsis: Request for use of SA [redacted] as UCA in one time undercover meeting.

Enclosures: Enclosed is a copy of a New York EC to New Haven dated December 30, 1997.

Details: As per enclosed EC from New York to New Haven dated December 30, 1997, Subject [redacted] of Kent, Connecticut, is offering to sell original sketches by Victim Joe Simon of which [redacted] ownership in them is under question.

On January 6, 1998 and January 9, 1998 captioned matter was discussed at length with Deputy Chief [redacted], United States Attorney's Office, District of Connecticut, who advised that his office is very much interested in prosecuting this case, and recommends the use of an undercover agent (UCA) interesting in purchasing the artwork from [redacted]. [redacted] advised that if [redacted] made material misrepresentations regarding his ownership of the artwork and/or his familiarity with Simon, sufficient evidence may exist to charge [redacted] with several violations of fraud as well as possible interstate transportation of stolen property. AUSA [redacted] concurred with the use of SA [redacted] as a the UCA posing as a possible investor interested in purchasing the artwork, and also gave his approval for an undercover scenario in which consensual monitorings are made.

On January 9, 1998, SA [redacted] enlisted the cooperation of art dealer [redacted] who agreed, with the aide of his partner, to contact [redacted] for the purpose of advising him that an out of town buyer is interested in the art work and would be [redacted]

b6  
b7C

No approval  
Please

ARTWORK. JIR

To: NH From: [REDACTED]  
Re: 87B-NH-3721387B-NH-NEW, 01/12/1998

b6  
b7C

coming to the general area on business in the near future. It is intended to have SA [REDACTED] act in a UC capacity and obtain a hotel room either close to Manhattan or the Ct. casinos in order to have a meeting with [REDACTED] video tape it and retrieve the artwork.

It is requested that SAC New Haven provide authority for the use of SA [REDACTED] in a one-time under cover capacity. It is estimated that this meeting will last no longer than one hour, and the level of risk of danger to the UCA appears minimal. It is also requested that the SAC gives his authority for the installation of a video camera and recording devices to be installed in a hotel suite and a joining room. It is noted that SA [REDACTED] is an experience investigator with previous UCA experience. Both FBIHQ, UCSOU and NH assistant UC coordinator have been advised of the above and concur with the use of SA [REDACTED] New York Division concurs with this investigation and advised that they will lend any assistance requested.

b6  
b7C

b6  
b7C

♦♦

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Precedence:** ROUTINE

**Date:** 02/17/1998

**To:** NH

**Attn:** Merrill S. Parks, Jr.

**From:** [redacted]

Squad 5

**Approved By:** [redacted]

**Drafted By:** [redacted]

ds

**Case ID #:** 87B-NH-37213 (Pending)

**Title:** UNSUB(S);  
Theft of D.C. Comics Artwork;  
Valued at approximately \$100,000.00;  
VICTIM-JOE SIMON, NEW YORK, N.Y.  
ITSP

b6  
b7C

*(Handwritten signature/initials inside a circle)*

**Synopsis:** Case update.

**Details:** For background information, on January 6, 1998 and January 9, 1998 captioned matter was discussed at length with Deputy Chief [redacted] United States Attorney's Office, District of Connecticut, who advised that his office is very much interested in prosecuting this case, and recommends the use of an undercover agent(UCA) who is interested in purchasing the artwork from [redacted] advised that if [redacted] made material misrepresentations regarding his ownership of the artwork and/or his familiarity with Simon, sufficient evidence may exist to charge [redacted] with several violations of fraud as well as possible interstate transportation of stolen property. AUSA [redacted] concurred with the use of SA [redacted] as a the UCA posing as a possible investor interested in purchasing the artwork, and also gave his approval for an undercover scenario in which consensual monitorings are made.

On January 9, 1998, SA [redacted] enlisted the cooperation of [redacted] who agreed, with the aide of his partner, to contact [redacted] for the purpose of advising him that an out of town buyer is interested in the art work and would be coming to the general area on business in the near future. It was intended to have SA [redacted] act in a UC capacity and obtain a hotel room either in the New York area or at one of the Connecticut casinos in order to have a meeting with [redacted] videotape it, and retrieve the artwork.

b6  
b7C  
b7D

Until recently, writer has met with much reluctance from cooperating witness to contact the subject and introduce an UCA. On 2/16/98 [redacted] (protect) [redacted] advised that after he decided to assist the FBI in this matter and then [redacted] to subject [redacted] in which he [redacted] what artwork by Joe Simon may be for sale. [redacted] has yet to [redacted]

Investigation continuing.

87B-NH-37213-7

♦♦

UPDATE.1

[redacted]

*(Handwritten signature/initials)*

b6  
b7C

*(Handwritten signature/initials)*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6  
b7C

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 03/5/1998

To: NH

From: [REDACTED]

Squad 5

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]

ds

Case ID #: 87B-NH-37213 (Pending)

Title: UNSUB(S);  
Theft of D.C. Comics Artwork;  
Valued at approximately \$100,000.00;  
VICTIM-JOE SIMON, NEW YORK, N.Y.  
ITSP

Synopsis: Case update.

Details: For background information, on January 6, 1998 and January 9, 1998 captioned matter was discussed at length with Deputy Chief [REDACTED] United States Attorney's Office, District of Connecticut, who advised that his office is very much interested in prosecuting this case, and recommends the use of an undercover agent (UCA) who is interested in purchasing the artwork from [REDACTED] advised that if [REDACTED] made material misrepresentations regarding his ownership of the artwork and/or his familiarity with [REDACTED] sufficient evidence may exist to charge [REDACTED] with several violations of fraud as well as possible interstate transportation of stolen property. AUSA [REDACTED] concurred with the use of SA [REDACTED] as a the UCA posing as a possible investor interested in purchasing the artwork, and also gave his approval for an undercover scenario in which consensual monitorings are made.

On January 9, 1998, SA [REDACTED] enlisted the cooperation of art dealer [REDACTED] who agreed, with the aide of his partner, to contact [REDACTED] for the purpose of advising him that an out of town buyer is interested in the art work and would be coming to the general area on business in the near future. It was intended to have SA [REDACTED] act in a UC capacity and obtain a hotel room either in the New York area or at one of the Connecticut casinos in order to have a meeting with [REDACTED] videotape it, and retrieve the artwork.

b6  
b7C

Until recently, writer has met with much reluctance from cooperating witness to contact the subject and introduce an UCA. On 2/16/98 [REDACTED] (protect) [REDACTED] advised that after he decided to assist the FBI in this matter and then placed a call to subject [REDACTED] in which he left a message that he was interested in learning what artwork by Joe Simon may be for sale. On 3/4/98 [REDACTED] advised that he has left several messages for [REDACTED] and has yet to receive a return call.

b7D  
b6  
b7C

Based on the above, it will be assumed that an undercover approach to [REDACTED] will not be successful and writer

87-NH-37213-8

1/18  
C 7/5/98

UPDATE. 2

To: NH From:   
Re: 87B-NH-3721387B-NH-NEW, 03/5/1998

b6  
b7C

will meet with the AUSA to discuss an overt investigative action.  
Investigation continuing.

♦♦



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No. 87B-NH-37213

150 Court St.  
New Haven, CT 06510  
March 10, 1998

RE: [redacted]

b6  
b7C

[redacted]  
Owens, Clary and Aiken, L.I.P.  
Suite 2400  
1719 Main Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear [redacted]

The FBI is investigating a claim from Mr. Joe Simon and D.C. Comics that artwork of Mr. Simon is missing and improperly in the possession of your client. Before proceeding any further, the FBI wishes to interview [redacted].

As requested on March 9, 1998 during a telephone conversation between you and Special Agent [redacted] of the New Haven office of the FBI, it was requested that you advise your client to be available to provide details concerning the comic book artwork of Mr. Simon that you and your client represent to be in his possession.

Please contact Special [redacted] at (203) 777-6311, ext 7105 to arrange a convenient time for an interview of [redacted]. The Assistant United States Attorney assigned this matter is [redacted] District of Connecticut, telephone (203) 821-3700.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Merrill S. Parks, Jr.  
Special Agent in Charge

By: [redacted]

Supervisory Special Agent

[redacted] JJR

87B-NH 37213-9

(12/31/1995)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Precedence:** ROUTINE

**Date:** 03/6/1998

**To:** NH

**From:** [redacted]

Squad 5

**Approved By:** [redacted]

**Drafted By:** [redacted]

ds

**Case ID #:** 87B-NH-37213 (Pending)

**Title:** UNSUB(S);  
Theft of D.C. Comics Artwork;  
Valued at approximately \$100,000.00;  
VICTIM-JOE SIMON, NEW YORK, N.Y.  
ITSP

(X)AK

**Synopsis:** Case update.

**Details:** On 3/6/98, writer met with AUSA [redacted] re captioned matter and to get a legal opinion on how to proceed. Writer was instructed to attempt to interview subject through his attorney.

Investigation continuing.

♦♦

UPDATE. 3

87B-NH-37213-10

[redacted] AK

11/8  
C7/9/98

(12/31/1995)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Precedence:** ROUTINE

**Date:** 03/30/1998

**To:** NH

**From:** [redacted]

Squad 5

**Approved By:** [redacted]

**Drafted By:** [redacted]

ds

**Case ID #:** 87B-NH-37213 (Pending)

**Title:** UNSUB(S);  
Theft of D.C. Comics Artwork;  
Valued at approximately \$100,000.00;  
VICTIM-JOE SIMON, NEW YORK, N.Y.  
ITSP

**Synopsis:** Case update.

**Details:** Attached is a copy of letter received from victim Joe Simon outlining recent events involving conversations with [redacted] a.k.a. [redacted] possible suspect. Simon informed writer that he had taped recorded the telephone conversation he had with [redacted] and will send writer a copy.

At the instruction of AUSA [redacted] writer will attempt to interview [redacted] through his attorney on April 3, 1998 at Kent, Ct.

Investigation continuing.

♦♦

b6  
b7C

UPDATE.4

87B NH 37213 - 11



FAX Transmittal Form From:

FAX Number: (212) 489-6844



330 W. 56 St. NYC 10019

Transmission To:

FBI NEW HAVEN

Fax Number: 203-786-7098

Phone Number: 203-786-7105

Subject: STOLEN ART

Special  
Instructions:

Time: 12:40 PM

Date: MARCH 28 1998

"Total" Number of Pages in Transmission: 7

Comments: I ASKED AGENT [REDACTED] TO REFAX THIS TO  
YOU YESTERDAY BUT HAVE SINCE OBTAINED  
YOUR FAX NUMBER.  
HOPE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH YOU.

I AM VERY COMMITTED TO THIS.

WILL BE IN ALL DAY MONDAY WITH THANKS

Any questions or problems, please call (212) 265-7346 to clarify.

Thank You



330 West 56 Street  
New York, NY 10019  
Tel # (212) 265-7346  
Fax # (212) 489-6844

March 26, 1998

Special Agent [redacted]  
FBI New Haven, Conn.

b6  
b7C

[redacted]

Less than a week ago, [redacted] walked into a comic book shop in Long Island and asked where he could get in touch with Joe Simon. A customer named [redacted] of Smithtown told [redacted] that he knew but would not give out my address. [redacted] gave [redacted] his phone number saying that he wanted to get in touch with my [redacted]

I communicated the number to [redacted]. She recalled [redacted] as a graphic artist who worked in the same small agency with her in early 1980's. [redacted] was [redacted] and worked there for less than 3 months.

[redacted] phoned [redacted] thinking that he may have word of a commission or some such art project. [redacted] asked [redacted] if she remembered selling him a sketch in 1980. She didn't know what he was talking about.

When [redacted] reported the strange conversation to me, I called [redacted] and asked him if he knew or had ever heard of a man named [redacted] who also worked in a graphic art studio in Farmingdale at about the same time period. (The original faxes listing the missing art were on a letterhead of Teccographic studios (one page attached)).

The faxes were signed [redacted] tells me that he is [redacted]. He is also [redacted].

(two)

[redacted] told me that he had bought the 300 boards of original art from [redacted] for somewhere around \$100 but kept wavering about the price and circumstances. [redacted] was completely mystified. She, nor any member of my family had ever sold any of my comic book art. They all know the high value of the work as well as the historic and sentimental value.

b6  
b7C

In a 3 way call, [redacted] urged [redacted] to take a lie detector test with her. He refused. I asked [redacted] how [redacted] would carry such a huge pile of art. [redacted] said that her boy friend actually sold him the art and delivered it. He said that this was the man she married. [redacted] described the man as definitely tall and [redacted]. Actually, the man is [redacted]. He is [redacted] and [redacted].

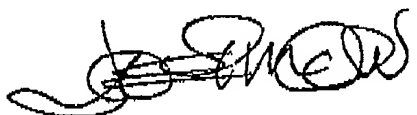
[redacted] said he kept the art work in his attic until recently when he gave it to his son. His son tells the art dealers that the art is at his father's house.

[redacted] does not have any proof of purchase such as check or receipt. His son has a lawyer. [redacted] is told to shut up.

[redacted] was raised in an affluent environment. She lived in our mansion on Smithtown Bay with eight bathrooms, waterfront plus swimming pool and guest house. The idea of her transporting 300 large boards of family-treasured art to sell to this foreign speaking little person is utterly insane. She wouldn't even carry her lunch. What are they asking us to think? That [redacted] somehow found the DC Comics warehouse, got possession of all the art and then sold it for \$100.? This insistence of [redacted] that the price was so very low is obviously part of a grand strategy of lies that I do not comprehend.

[redacted] and his son did not respond to the letter from DC Comics which suggested that they were in possession of stolen art until about six months later when they were under pressure from DC and the FBI.

[redacted] and his family originally claimed that I had given him the art. Maybe they grew tired of waiting for my demise.



Joe Simon

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 04/03/98

of birth date of birth place  
telephone was

b6  
b7C

interviewed in the presence of his attorney, [redacted] and provided the following information regarding his knowledge of sketches by Joe Simon.



In approximately the fall of 1997 his father provided him with approximately 300 sketches by the comic artist Joe Simon. Through an individual he was taking an art class with, began making inquiries as to the value of these sketches. Shortly thereafter, he received in writing a notice from D.C. Comics that the sketches's ownership was in dispute, at which time he referred the matter to his attorney. He could provide no further details as to how his father obtained the sketches.

Investigation on 04/03/98 at New Milford, CTFile # 87B-NH-37213-13 Date dictated 04/03/1998by SA [redacted] JJR/jvc

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

302cdwar JJR



- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 04/03/98

[redacted] date of birth [redacted]

[redacted] telephone number [redacted]

was [redacted] b6 b7C

[redacted] interviewed in the presence of his attorney, [redacted] regarding his familiarity with the obtaining of approximately 300 sketches from Comic Artist Joe Simon. [redacted] advised as follows:

Before retiring, he was by profession a graphic artist. In approximately [redacted]

[redacted] Plainview, New York, which duties included, among other things, the overseeing of the work of junior artists. During this time, Joe Simon's [redacted] was employed there as a junior artist. [redacted] advised [redacted] that her father was a famous comic artist and was involved in the creation of Captain America and Spider Man. [redacted] informed her that if she ever had any of his art for sale he would be interested in purchasing them and she offered to sell him approximately 300 sketches of her father's work. He agreed to purchase these sketches for approximately \$100.00 in cash and this transaction was witnessed by [redacted] boyfriend at the time who [redacted] remembered as a [redacted] male but could not recall his name.

In the fall of 1997, he gave these sketches to his [redacted] [redacted] with the anticipation that the sketches may have appreciated in value. In March 1998, after he became aware that Joe Simon and D.C. Comics was disputing the ownership of these sketches, he telephonically made contact with [redacted] to ask her to confirm that she actually sold him these sketches for approximately \$100.00. [redacted] advised that [redacted] would not confirm or deny that she sold [redacted] the sketches and that her boyfriend during the time period in question eventually married her and that they are now divorced. She did not provide the name of this individual.

Investigation on 04/03/1998 at New Milford, CT

File # 87B-NH-37213-14 Date dictated 04/03/1998

by SA [redacted] JJR/jvc

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; [redacted] not to be distributed outside your agency.

302

(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6  
b7C

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 04/20/1998

To: Albany  
New York

Attn: [REDACTED]  
Squad C-2

From: New Haven  
Squad 5

Contact: SA [REDACTED] 203 777-6311, X 7105

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]:jvc

Case ID #: 87B-NH-37213 (Pending)

Title: UNSUB(S);  
THEFT OF D.C. COMICS ARTWORK;  
Valued at approximately \$100,000;  
VICTIM-Joe Simon,  
New York, NY  
Possible ITSP

Synopsis: Lead for Albany Division to interview witnesses.

Enclosures: Two copies of FD 302's re interview of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and his son [REDACTED]

Details: For information of Albany Division, captioned matter was initiated by a complaint received by the New York office by Joe Simon, white male, date of birth 10/11/1913, address 330 West 56th Street, New York, NY, telephone number 212 265-7346. Simon, a retired comic book artist who created the "Captain America" character in the 1940's, advised that approximately \$100,000 worth of his original comic book art was currently being offered for sale by an individual named [REDACTED], telephone number [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] facsimile number [REDACTED]. This original art, done for D.C. Comics, consisting of approximately 300 pages, was supposed to be returned to Simon by D.C. Comics in the early 1970's, but was apparently never returned to Simon from the D.C. Comics archive warehouse in New York.

Simon advised that he received a telephone call on 11/12/1997 from an acquaintance named [REDACTED] a Connecticut comic book dealer, home telephone [REDACTED] who runs a copy called [REDACTED] advised that an individual named [REDACTED] contacted him about this time. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that his father was in possession of over 300 pages of original Joe Simon artwork that he was to sell and that Simon himself had given the artwork to [REDACTED] attempting to confirm the provenance of the artwork, faxed Simon

ec

JIA

87B NH 37213-15 [REDACTED]

a complete list of the artwork being offered for sale by [redacted]

According to Simon, and the legal department at D.C. Comics, the policy of D.C. Comics in the 1970's was to return all original comic book artwork to the artist approximately 6 months after publication; however, there was apparently a theft at the D.C. Comics archives warehouse during this time in which the artwork was never returned to Simon. Other artwork was previously returned to Simon by [redacted] a D.C. Comics employee currently located at [redacted] telephone [redacted]

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b7C

Simon contacted [redacted] and General Council, Legal Department, D.C. Comics, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY, telephone 212 636-5464, who sent a letter to [redacted] informing him that the artwork in his possession may have been stolen and therefore it would be unlawful for him to dispose of it. Included in the artwork for sale is the original artwork for the cover of "Sand Man" Comics which was the last collaboration between Simon and Comic Book Artist Jack Kirby, and is considered to be of great historical value in the comic book art world, worth approximately \$40,000 alone. [redacted] faxed a copy of this cover to [redacted] on 12/17/1997 offering it for sale.

It should be noted that contact with D.C. Comics legal department in New York has not confirmed the alleged theft of Simon's artwork, nor has a New York City police report been located. According to [redacted] if the theft occurred, it was not immediately detected and may not have been reported to the police at all.

By letter dated 1/12/1998, [redacted] advised, through counsel, that he was in receipt of the notice from D.C. Comics that the ownership of the artwork was in dispute.

In March of 1998, Connecticut Assistant United States Attorney [redacted] telephone 203 821-3700, advised that based on the fact that [redacted] was represented by counsel in any effort to interview [redacted] should be requested through his attorney. As outlined in attached FD 302's on 4/3/1998, [redacted] and his [redacted] was interviewed in the presence of their attorney and advised interviewing agents that [redacted] purchased the disputed artwork from the [redacted] of Joe Simon, [redacted] in approximately 1981 when [redacted] was employed at the same advertising firm with [redacted] advised that, to the best of his recollection, he paid \$100.00 for the artwork and that a witness to this transaction was [redacted] boyfriend who he described as being tall with blonde hair. New Haven has learned that [redacted] was married to an individual named [redacted] with whom she was engaged to during 1981 and since that time this marriage has ended in divorce. [redacted] is believed to be living somewhere in Syracuse, New York and [redacted] may have his exact address and telephone number.

It is noted that both [ ] and [ ] were cooperative during their interviews, agreed to be polygraphed, and impressed both interviewing agents as to be highly credible. New Haven also wishes to note that it is highly coincidental that [ ] was employed at the same company as the [ ] of the artist who's artwork is in question.

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LEAD(S):

Set Lead 1:

ALBANY DIVISION

AT SKANCATELES, NEW YORK

1. Interview [ ] of artist Joe Simon, at [ ] telephone number [ ] regarding her familiarity with above matter and the assurance by [ ] that she sold him the questioned artwork for approximately \$100.00 in or around 1981. Albany should be aware that [ ] has denied to her father Joe Simon that this transaction took place and may be trying to disclose the truth from her father.

2. Albany also is requested to obtain from [ ] the current whereabouts of her [ ] and set logical lead to have [ ] interviewed re his familiarity with this matter.

3. Albany should attempt to ascertain from [ ] what individual if any [ ] may be referring to as a tall male with blonde hair, in light of the fact that [ ] is reported to be [ ] with [ ] Albany should be aware that [ ] has volunteered to her father to make herself available to take a polygraph.

♦♦



- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 4/30/98

[redacted] born [redacted]  
social security account number [redacted]  
[redacted] telephone number [redacted] was  
interviewed at her home concerning allegations that she sold 300  
pieces of [redacted] artwork. After being advised of the  
identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the  
interview, she provided the following information:

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In about 1981, [redacted] worked for an advertising firm  
located at Farmingdale, New York. [redacted] was only employed for  
two months and left the company for various reasons including  
sexual harassment from [redacted] does not remember  
the name of the advertising firm.

[redacted] recalls bringing a comic book into work for [redacted]  
to look at, but that was the extent of her involvement with [redacted]  
[redacted] was then living with [redacted] who at that time  
was her boyfriend. She was not dating or involved with anyone  
else during this time.

[redacted] now her ex-husband, had limited contact  
with the advertising firm for which [redacted] worked. To the best of  
[redacted] recollection, [redacted] only once came to the advertising  
firm to pick [redacted] up from work but he never came into the  
building.

Approximately six weeks ago, [redacted] was contacted by  
[redacted] [redacted] had not spoken to [redacted] for approximately  
17 years and was very surprised to hear from him. [redacted] started  
the conversation exchanging small talk and he then asked about a  
piece of artwork that she had sold to him 17 years ago. She  
stated that she did not know what [redacted] was talking about. [redacted]  
said that because [redacted] has a "very thick accent" she could not  
fully understand him and did not answer his question regarding  
the artwork. [redacted] finished the conversation stating that his  
son was interested in Joe Simon's artwork if she ever wanted to  
sell any.

Approximately five weeks ago after speaking to her  
[redacted] Joe Simon, regarding the stolen art collection, [redacted]  
called [redacted] back and told him that she would never sell [redacted]  
[redacted] artwork. [redacted] was furious at this allegation and told

Investigation on 4/30/98 at Skaneateles, New York

File # 87B-NH-37213-17 Date dictated 4/30/98

by SA [redacted]

87B-NH-37213

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 4/30/98

, Page 2

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED] that she did not appreciate him telling lies to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] provided a description of this type of artwork which is approximately 3'X 2' with a hard backing. Three-hundred original sketches with the backings would take two people to lift and transport. [REDACTED] has agreed to be polygraphed regarding this investigation.

[REDACTED] provided the following information on her [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
DOB: [REDACTED]

SSAN: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Race: [REDACTED]

Sex: [REDACTED]

Height: [REDACTED]

Weight: [REDACTED]

Build: [REDACTED]

Hair: [REDACTED]

Eye color: [REDACTED]

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription . 5/1/98

[redacted] born [redacted]  
social security account number [redacted]  
[redacted] telephone number [redacted] was  
interviewed telephonically because of work commitments. The  
interview concerned allegations that he was a witness to the sale  
of 300 pieces of Joe Simon's artwork. After being advised of the  
identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the  
interview, he provided the following information:

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[redacted] remembers his [redacted] telling him  
in about 1992 about a couple named [redacted] and [redacted] who  
lived in the apartment next to [redacted] (victim-Joe Simon)  
Simon's address at this time was [redacted]  
[redacted] father was an executive in the tobacco industry and  
left inheritance money to his son. The [redacted] took this  
\$20,000.00 and turned it into \$200,000.00 in counterfeit money.  
[redacted] used this counterfeit money to pay living expenses.  
[redacted] was a very attractive woman who had a lot of access  
to Joe Simon's apartment in NYC.

[redacted] told [redacted] that the [redacted] later moved  
to Hollywood, California to accept a job in the movie industry.  
An art dealer in California reportedly called Joe Simon inquiring  
whether some artwork from the [redacted] was real and Joe Simon  
reportedly responded that he did not know what the dealer was  
talking about.

[redacted] and [redacted] did sell one thousand comic  
books titled "SICK." These were sold in about 1981 to two men at  
a Denny's restaurant for \$200.00-\$300.00. [redacted] did not know  
the two men who bought the comics. According to [redacted] her  
father knew of this business transaction and approved it.

The interviewing agent asked about [redacted]  
employment with Carino-Phillips Advertising. [redacted] recalled  
that she had worked there for approximately two weeks.  
[redacted] at first could not recall a man by the name of [redacted]  
[redacted] then remembered that a older man named [redacted] grabbed  
[redacted] in the darkroom at the advertising agency and tried to kiss her.

Investigation on 5/1/98 at Syracuse, New York (telephonically)

File # 87B-NH-37213 - 18 Date dictated 5/1/98

by SA [redacted]

87B-NH-37213

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 5/1/98, Page 2 b6 b7C

In an attempt to ascertain whether [REDACTED] witnessed an art transaction with [REDACTED] the interviewing agent asked whether either of the men that bought the comics from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had an accent. [REDACTED] replied that neither of the men had an accent and added that he never witnessed any transactions of Joe Simon sketches from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]

Coleman stated that [REDACTED] was in possession of many of the original sketches from Joe Simon, but to his knowledge the sketches were not sold to anyone.

[REDACTED] described his [REDACTED] as extremely intelligent and manipulative. He further stated that it would not surprise him if she had sold the drawings because [REDACTED] and his [REDACTED] "were dirt poor" in 1981.

[REDACTED] provided a description of a typical Joe Simon sketch as 18"X 24" with a hard backing that measured 3/16 of an inch thick.

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription . 5/1/98

[redacted] born [redacted]  
social security account number [redacted] of [redacted]  
[redacted] telephone number [redacted] was  
telephonically interviewed concerning additional details given by  
[redacted] After being advised of the identity  
of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview, she  
provided the following information:

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[redacted] was questioned as to what involvement [redacted] and [redacted]  
[redacted] might have regarding Joe Simon's stolen artwork.

The [redacted] lived for [redacted]  
[redacted] to Joe Simon's apartment. The [redacted] moved to  
California in 1991.

[redacted] described the [redacted] as "shady characters"  
and mentioned that [redacted] was involved in drug dealing and  
a counterfeit scheme. [redacted] does not know the specific details  
of the [redacted] criminal involvement.

[redacted] stated that the [redacted] had complete access to  
[redacted] apartment and [redacted] thought of [redacted] as  
a daughter. [redacted] feels that [redacted] was quite naive with the  
[redacted]

[redacted] indicated that [redacted] later suspected that  
the [redacted] were involved in a transaction involving his  
artwork in California but cannot give specifics.

Investigation on 5/1/98 at Syracuse, New York (telephonically)

File # 87B-NH-37213-79 Date dictated 5/1/98

by SA [redacted]

(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 05/04/1998

To: New Haven

Attn: SA [redacted]

b6  
b7c

From: Albany

Syracuse Resident Agency

Contact: SA [redacted] 315-422-0141

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] dpz

Case ID #: 87B-NH-37213 (Pending) ~ 20

Title: UNSUB (S);  
THEFT OF D.C. COMICS ARTWORK  
Valued at approximately \$100,000;  
VICTIM-Joe Simon,  
New York, NY  
Possible ITSP

Handwritten initials "JA" inside a circle.

Synopsis: To report results of leads covered at Albany.

Reference: 87B-NH-37213

Enclosures: Original and one copy each of three FD-302s and three 1A envelopes containing original notes of the interviews of [redacted] and [redacted]

Details: [redacted] was interviewed at her home located at [redacted] and subsequently was telephonically interviewed to clarify details given by [redacted]. [redacted] was interviewed telephonically.

[redacted] advised that she once worked for an advertising firm in about 1981. [redacted] has denied that she sold original Joe Simon sketches to [redacted] while working at the advertising firm.

[redacted] remembers his [redacted] telling him about a couple named [redacted] and [redacted] who lived next to Joe Simon for about 10 years. [redacted] reportedly told [redacted] that they had access to Joe Simon's apartment and could have taken the sketches.

[redacted] at first did not recall the name of [redacted] until asked about [redacted] employment with Carino-Phillips Advertising. [redacted] remembered very little of [redacted] but added that he never witnessed a sale of Joe Simon sketches between [redacted] and [redacted].

Handwritten: 87B NH 37213-20

Handwritten: rec'd 6/2/98

[redacted]

Handwritten signature

Handwritten initials "JA"

To: New Haven From: Albany  
Re: 87B-NH-37213, 05/04/1998

Further details of the interviews are set forth in the enclosed FD-302s.

(12/31/1995)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 07/06/1998

To: New Haven

Attn: SAC Merrill S. Parks, Jr.

From: New Haven

Squad 5

Contact: [REDACTED]

Ext. 7105

b6  
b7c

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED]:lrr

Case ID #: 87B-NH-37213 (Pending)

Title: THEFT OF DC COMICS ARTWORK,  
ET AL, ITSP  
OO:NEW HAVEN

Synopsis: Results of contact with complainant.

Details: On 6/30/1998 complainant in this matter, Joe Simon was recontacted regarding captioned matter and advised that the FBI was having difficulty in pursuing prosecution of [REDACTED] do to his claim that the artwork presumed to be stolen and in [REDACTED] possession was most likely sold to him by Simon's [REDACTED]. Although [REDACTED] denies ever selling artwork by her father to [REDACTED] it is highly coincidental that she was employed at the same graphic artist studio in the early 1980s.

Simon advised that there is a strong possibility that his daughter did in fact take the artwork without his permission and sell it to [REDACTED] and therefore wished to withdraw his complaint with the FBI. Simon advised that he would seek to have his lawyer negotiate an agreement with [REDACTED] where the artwork in question can be sold off at auction and proceeds split evenly between the two parties.

In light of the above, writer will seek from AUSA New Haven a declination in this matter and will conduct no further investigation.

♦♦

Ed [REDACTED] JJR

87B NH 37213-21



**SPECIAL AGENT**

*Squad 5*

b6  
b7C

June 8, 1998

By Fax

Friedman Levy & Goldfarb  
250 West 57th Street  
New York, NY

Re: Simon, w/ [redacted] and [redacted]

Dear [redacted]

This shall confirm our conversation last week regarding the resolution of the dispute between our respective clients (in your case, both father and son). Subject to a formal agreement, which I will draft, the parties have agreed as follows:

1. The artwork will be sold through a reputable auction house with the proceeds (after deducting the auction house's cut) to be divided 55% to Simon and 45% to [redacted]
2. Simon will personally autograph all of the artwork.
3. The parties will exchange mutual general releases upon the sale of the artwork and the division of the proceeds therefrom.

At this point, we are awaiting receipt from your client of photocopies of all of the artwork so that a schedule can be prepared which will be attached to the formal agreement. I understand that this should be received shortly.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

ORENSTEIN & ORENSTEIN, P.C.

By [redacted]

cc: Joe Simon

87B-NH-37213-22

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 6 1998	
[redacted]	

*[Signature]*

(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**Precedence:** ROUTINE

**Date:** 07/14/1998

**To:** New Haven

**From:** New Haven

Squad 5

**Contact:** [REDACTED]

Ext. 7105

**Approved By:** [REDACTED]

**Drafted By:** [REDACTED] lrr

**Case ID #:** 87B-NH-37213 (Pending)

**Title:** THEFT OF DC COMICS ARTWORK,  
ET AL, ITSP  
OO:NEW HAVEN

**Synopsis:** Request for case closing.

**Details:** On 6/30/1998 complainant in this matter, Joe Simon was recontacted regarding captioned matter and advised that the FBI was having difficulty in pursuing prosecution of [REDACTED] do to his claim that the artwork presumed to be stolen and in [REDACTED] possession was most likely sold to him by Simon's [REDACTED]. Although [REDACTED] denies ever selling artwork by [REDACTED] to [REDACTED], it is highly coincidental that she was employed at the same graphic artist studio in the early 1980s.

Simon advised that there is a strong possibility that [REDACTED] did in fact, take the artwork without his permission and sell it to [REDACTED] and therefore wished to withdraw his complaint with the FBI. Simon advised that he would seek to have his lawyer negotiate an agreement with [REDACTED] where the artwork in question can be sold off at auction and proceeds split evenly between the two parties.

AUSA [REDACTED] New Haven was advised of the above and concurs with the closing of this matter.

♦♦

**CLOSE ON THIS**  
CASE 87B-NH-37213  
4/17/98 [REDACTED]

87B NH 37213 23

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 17 1998	

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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(X) [REDACTED]

2/19/98

Automated Serial Permanent Charge-Out  
FD-5a (1-5-94)

Date: 08/23/00

Time: 07:50

Case ID: 87B-NH-37213 Serial: 24

Description of Document:

Type : EC  
Date : 07/28/00  
To : NEW HAVEN  
From : NEW HAVEN  
Topic: RESULTS OF QUARTERLY AUDIT SET FORTH.

Reason for Permanent Charge-Out:

wrong file no on document

Transferred to:

Case ID: 66I-NH-A27313 Serial: 29

Employee

b6  
b7C

87B-NH-37213-24

Automated Serial Permanent Charge-Out  
FD-5a (1-5-94)

Date: 09/05/00

Time: 07:43

Case ID: 87B-NH-37213 Serial: 25

Description of Document:

Type : EC  
Date : 07/28/00  
To : NEW HAVEN  
From : NEW HAVEN  
Topic: RESULTS OF QUARTERLY AUDIT SET FORTH.

Reason for Permanent Charge-Out:

wrong file number on EC

Transferred to:

Case ID: 66I-NH-A27313 Serial: 30

Employee:

b6  
b7C

87B-NH-37213-25

Automated Serial Permanent Charge-Out  
FD-5a (1-5-94)

Date: 01/26/01 Time: 17:12

Case ID: 87B-NH-37213 Serial: 26

Description of Document:

Type : EC  
Date : 01/17/01  
To : NEW HAVEN  
From : NEW HAVEN  
Topic: RESULTS OF QUARTERLY AUDIT SET FORTH.

Reason for Permanent Charge-Out:

MISFILED

Transferred to:

Case ID: 66I-NH-A27312 Serial: 41

Employee:

b6  
b7C

87B-NH-37213-26

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 27

Page 44 ~ Duplicate

Page 45 ~ Duplicate

Page 49 ~ Duplicate

Page 50 ~ Duplicate

Page 51 ~ Duplicate

Page 52 ~ Duplicate

Page 53 ~ Duplicate

Page 54 ~ Duplicate

Page 55 ~ Duplicate

Page 56 ~ Duplicate

Page 57 ~ Duplicate

Page 58 ~ Duplicate

Page 59 ~ Duplicate

Page 60 ~ Duplicate

Page 61 ~ Duplicate

Page 62 ~ Duplicate

Page 63 ~ Duplicate

Page 64 ~ b6, b7C

Page 65 ~ b6, b7C

Page 66 ~ b6, b7C

Page 67 ~ b6, b7C

Page 77 ~ Duplicate

Page 78 ~ Duplicate

Page 79 ~ Duplicate

Page 80 ~ Duplicate

Page 81 ~ Duplicate

Page 89 ~ Duplicate